

Message Text

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ACTION FBO-05

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P 121520Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2230

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E.O. 11652C N/A

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, ASEC

SUBJECT: PERMANENT EMBASSY CHANCERY AND RESIDENCE.

REF: BERLIN 5299

1. AS THREE WEEKS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE FEBRUARY 20 MEETING BETWEEN THE DLA AND MESSRS. KNOOP AND MAGUIRE AND SUBSEQUENT LETTERS HAVE GONE UNANSWERED, EMBASSY PERSONNEL MET WITH DLA REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN MARCH 11 IN AN ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF USG REQUESTED ITEMS AT HAUS DES HANDWERKS. THE ITEMS LISTED IN REFTEL AND THEIR STATUS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

2. USG REQUESTED DRAWINGS OF BUILDING FACADE IN ORDER TO COMPLETE DESIGN OF ENTRANCE DOORS, FLAG POLE, EMBLEM, ETC. (REF. PARA B-1A). HOFFMANN STATED THAT CURRENT FACADE DRAWINGS ARE NOT AVAILABLE AND PROBABLY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL BUILDING IS COMPLETED.

3. USG REQUESTED DLA TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM CAPACITY OF LIGHTING CIRCUITS FOR GROUND FLOOR REPRESENTATIONAL AREAS (REF. PARA B-1B). HOFFMANN STATED THAT INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE BUT MAY BE AVAILABLE BY MARCH 15 OR 16.

4. USG REQUESTED THE DLA TO PROVIDE DRAWINGS FOR THE MAIN STAIRWAY FOR USG APPROVAL OF BALUSTERS AND HANDRAIL DESIGN (REF: PARA B-1I). HOFFMANN STATED DRAWINGS WERE NOT AVAILABLE BUT THAT HE WOULD TRY TO OBTAIN THEM AND

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INFORM THE EMBASSY BY MARCH 15 OR 16.

5. USG REQUESTED THE DLA TO ADVISE THE EMBASSY OF ESTIMATED COSTS FOR ALL PROPOSED CHANGES, INCLUDING APPROPRIATE CREDITS (REF: PARA C). HOFFMANN REPLIED THAT THE EMBASSY WILL RECEIVE A LETTER FROM DLA DIRECTOR GENERAL LOEFFLER WITHIN A WEEK LISTING WHICH CHANGES ARE POSSIBLE AND WHICH ARE NOT. HOFFMANN FURTHER STATED THE DLA HAD NOT STOPPED WORK IN THE AREAS WHERE THE USG HAD PROPOSED CHANGES BECAUSE "DLA DID NOT WANT TO CHANGE THEIR AIM". THIS WAS EXPLAINED TO MEAN THAT SOME OF THE REQUESTED CHANGES WERE NOT POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE DLA AND THE CONTRACTORS PERFORMING THE RENOVATIONS. HE SAID THAT SOME CHANGES WERE TECHNICALLY POSSIBLE BUT WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE UNDER NEW CONTRACTS AS THE CURRENT CONTRACTS HAD INSUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO ALLOW CHANGES. MEANWHILE, RENOVATION IN THESE AREAS WOULD CONTINUE, EVEN WHILE DISCUSSION OF CHANGES WAS TAKING PLACE. HOFFMANN STATED HE INFORMED CONTRACTORS ON MARCH 10 TO MAKE CHANGES DLA CONSIDERS POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. EMBASSY WILL NOT KNOW WHICH CHANGES THESE ARE UNTIL RECEIPT OF THE LOEFFLER LETTER.

6. DLA WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THREE COPIES OF THE LATEST FLOOR PLANS FOR THE RESIDENCE AND CHANCERY, INCLUDING ELECTRICAL DRAWINGS (REF: PARA D). THREE COPIES OF LATEST FLOOR PLANS FOR HAUS DES HANDWERKS WERE RECEIVED BY EMBASSY ON MARCH 3 AND ONE COPY FORWARDED TO JOHN CONDAYAN. HOFFMANN STATED HE CANNOT DELIVER ANY OF THE OTHER REQUESTED DRAWINGS AT THIS TIME.

7. DLA WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ONE COPY OF ALL INTERIOR DRAWINGS SHOWING CEILING HEIGHTS, DOORS, WINDOWS, ETC., (REF: PARA E). AGAIN HOFFMANN STATED SUCH DRAWINGS ARE NOT AVAILABLE FROM THE DLA. HOFFMANN SAID THE CONTRACTORS HAVE THESE DRAWINGS, OR ARE PREPARING THEM, BUT THE DLA WILL NOT HAVE THEM UNTIL THE CONTRACTOR TURNS THEM OVER, PER THEIR CONTRACT. HE STATED THEY MAY BE AVAILABLE IN TWO TO THREE WEEKS. COOPER

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